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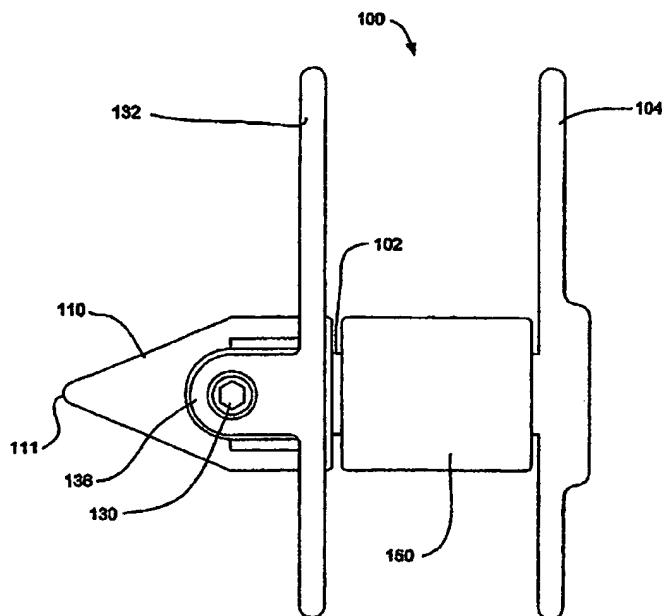
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(54) Title: INTERSPINOUS PROCESS IMPLANT WITH RADIOLUCENT SPACER AND LEAD-IN TISSUE EXPANDER



(57) Abstract: The present invention is directed to an interspinous process device with a deflectable spacer which can be placed between adjacent spinous processes to limit the movement of the vertebrae. The device limits the range of motion of the spinous processes. The spacer and a lead-in distraction guide or tissue expander can be radiolucent.

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— *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments*

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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : A61B 17/70

US CL : 623/17.11

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 623/17.11, 17.16; 606/60, 61, 72, 86, 90

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5,390,683 A (PISHARODI) 21 February 1995 (21.02.1995), see all Figures and complete specification.	1-71
X	US 6,048,342 A (ZUCHERMAN ET AL) 11 April 2000 (11.04.2000), see all Figures and complete specification.	1-71
X	US 6,068,630 A (ZUCHERMAN ET AL) 30 May 2000 (30.05.2000), see all Figures and complete specification.	1-71
A	US 4,878,915 A (BRANTIGAN) 07 November 1989 (07.11.1989), see all Figures and complete specification.	1-71

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

☐ See patent family annex.

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"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

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